



MARSHALL STAR

Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

Nov. 18, 2010

Administrator Bolden addresses Marshall work force



NASA Administrator Charles Bolden takes questions from Marshall Space Flight Center team members during his Nov. 16 all-hands meeting at the center. Bolden updated the team on the upcoming STS-133 mission; the work of the agency's Human Exploration Framework Team to define NASA's human spaceflight goals; and progress toward an appropriations bill in Congress, among other topics. He also congratulated Marshall Center Director Robert Lightfoot and the Marshall team on the center's 50th anniversary and on the opening in Kathmandu, Nepal, of a third SERVIR regional mapping and visualization center – the real-time environmental monitoring system developed at Marshall.

David Higginbotham/MSCC

Teams continue Discovery gaseous hydrogen leak work, tank crack repairs

From NASA Headquarters

NASA and contractor senior managers plan to meet Nov. 22 at NASA's Johnson Space Center for a launch status briefing to assess and review the repair work and launch preparations for space shuttle Discovery. Although a new target launch date has not been set for space

See **STS-133** on page 3

Marshall CFC giving surges past \$400,000!



By Rick Smith

With just three weeks left in the 2010 Combined Federal Campaign, the Marshall Space Flight Center team has contributed \$403,405 to the annual government fundraiser.

The center's efforts drew praise this week from Marshall Deputy Director Gene Goldman, who said he became an ardent CFC supporter in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, when he was deputy director of the Stennis Space Center near Bay St. Louis, Miss.

"Nearly 30 percent of the employees at Stennis lost everything they had in the storm in 2005, and many received support from CFC," he said. "But what struck me most was that in the year following Katrina, contributions to charitable organizations were the highest ever along the Gulf Coast – from the same group that had suffered so much.

"CFC touches so many lives, primarily on a local level," he added. "We are lucky to have this opportunity to help others."

See **CFC** on page 5

Caring in Action Program Recipient of the Month

Joshua Usher puts safety first at ODIN warehouse

Joshua Usher – a warehouse administrator for EMCO Technologies, supporting the Office of the Chief Information Officer – has been selected as the Caring in Action Program Recipient of the Month.

He was recently assigned to the ODIN warehouse in Building 2 on Research Boulevard in Madison, where computer equipment, phones and local area network electronics are shipped and received for the Marshall Space Flight Center.

Usher took the initiative to put safety first in his new assignment by cleaning the warehouse, excessing items no longer used, removing items near electrical panels and fire extinguishers, and putting yellow caution tape on floors in areas that should never be blocked.

“Joshua Usher showed a caring-in-action attitude by making sure his co-workers are safe on the job,” said Glenda Morton, Safety Action Team chairwoman. “Cleaning this area helps ODIN serve its customers more quickly and safely.”

For more information about the Caring in Action Program or to nominate a team member, visit <https://safety.msfc.nasa.gov/sites/cia/>.



Joshua Usher, left, receives the Caring in Action Program Recipient of the Month award from Glenda Morton during a recent Marshall senior staff meeting.

Getting a feel for next-generation technology



Dakota Sugarek, left, a 10th-grader at the Tennessee School for the Blind in Nashville visiting the Marshall Space Flight Center, examines a rapid prototyped valve for next-generation technology. Clay Robertson, an aerospace engineer in Marshall's Spacecraft & Vehicle Systems Department, explains the technology during a hands-on activity for Dakota and 16 other visually impaired students who took part in the school's annual visit to Marshall on Nov. 9. They explored the "flat floor" facility in Building 4619 and propulsion research labs in Building 4205. The students also experienced a hot gas test firing in the East Test Area and met with Marshall engineers and researchers, including NASA chemist Dr. Craig Moore, who has been blind since birth. The visit was hosted by Marshall's Office of Diversity & Equal Opportunity.



Go Discovery!

Alisa Shivers, far right, an engineer in the Marshall Space Flight Center's Space Shuttle Main Engine Project Office, invited 11 of her childhood friends to Kennedy Space Center, Fla., Nov. 1 for space shuttle Discovery's launch. Originally from Alexander City, Ala., the 12 friends – each now living in various states – meet each year, so Shivers suggested their 2010 reunion be held at Kennedy during a shuttle launch. While her friends didn't see Discovery launch because of a delay until the end of November, they toured Kennedy, saw a space shuttle main engine up close and met astronaut Mike Foale. From left are Colleen Carlisle Murphy, Rene Reynolds Mason, Ruth Meacham Burgess, Foale, Vicki Brown Dobbs, Kathy Janney Scott, Candy Shaffer McMillan, Jenny Lynn Tankersley Henig and Shivers. Not pictured are Jane Lamberth Sepanski, Myra Cromer Cash, Janet Yates Scott and Nancy Ingle Stansfield.

STS-133 *Continued from page 1*

shuttle Discovery's STS-133 mission to the International Space Station, repair work and planning are still aimed at supporting an attempt in the upcoming launch window that opens Nov. 30.

Technicians at Kennedy Space Center, Fla., will install new quick-disconnect hardware in the recently installed Ground Umbilical Carrier Plate, or GUCP, to fix a hydrogen gas leak that postponed Discovery's launch Nov. 5. Technicians installed a new flight seal in the GUCP on Discovery's external fuel tank Nov. 12 and took precise measurements of the hardware to ensure all components are properly aligned and will prevent another hydrogen leak.

Another team of technicians is working on repairing cracks on the tops of two, 21-foot-long support beams, called stringers, on the exterior of the external tank in an area known as the intertank. The team includes personnel from the Marshall Space Flight Center and NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans – the external tank manufacturing plant.

Technicians also removed a section of one of the stringers that had two, 9-inch cracks. On Nov. 12 – during foam removal and inspection of stringers adjacent to the stringer with 9-inch cracks – technicians identified a crack about 3-inches long on the left-hand adjacent stringer. Further foam removal revealed one additional corresponding crack on the same left-hand adjacent stringer. Technicians removed that section of the stringer Nov. 15 and will install a new section of metal, called a "doubler," because it is twice as thick as the original stringer metal with the 9-inch cracks.

Engineers continue evaluating the intertank for any potential issues, but so far no other cracks have been found beyond the ones on the two previously identified stringers. There are a total of 108 stringers on the intertank.

For more information about the progress of repairs at the launch pad, visit http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/main/index.html.



Kennedy Space Center workers install a new Ground Umbilical Carrier Plate on space shuttle Discovery's external fuel tank.

Retired shuttle workers to be featured in Aviation Week magazine



A group of Marshall Space Flight Center retirees who spent their careers working in NASA's Space Shuttle Program recently participated in an interview with Aviation Week Space & Technology magazine for its December retrospective about the program. The interview at Marshall was conducted by Frank Morring, front row center, the magazine's deputy managing

editor/space. Shuttle managers who shared their experiences included, from left, front row, Alex McCool Ken Jones, Jerry Smelser, John Thomas, Mike Pessin and Jim Odom; back row, Parker Counts; Otto Goetz; Steve Cash, the current manager of the Shuttle Propulsion Office at Marshall; John Chapman; and Eric Engler.

Classified Ads

To submit a classified ad to the Marshall Star, go to Inside Marshall, to "Employee Resources," and click on "Marshall Star Ad Form."

Ads are limited to 15 words, including contact numbers. No sales pitches. Deadline for the next issue, Nov. 25, is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18.

Miscellaneous

Kincaid Ducks Unlimited solid Currutuck cherry entertainment center, 23Dx60Wx58T, two drawers, five shelves. 256-830-0851

iPod Nano, 6th generation, orange, \$125. 256-457-5823

9-foot pre-lit Christmas tree, \$150; Panasonic miniDV camcorder, \$100. 256-337-7943

Kenmore washer, 80 series, \$75. 256-519-9326

Kasson pool table, fruitwood, Queen Anne feet, leather pockets, \$1,950. 256-880-6563 leave message

Headboard, chest, nightstand, dresser with mirror, bed rails, \$300. 256-651-7640

Girl's dresser, mirror, \$60. 256-682-7165

Large collection of NASCAR Dale Earnhardt Sr. items. 931-334-2000

2007 woman's TREK "Lime" bicycle, less than 10 miles, helmet. 256-468-3902

Sealy twin mattress and box springs, \$50 obo. 256-417-7192

New HP Photosmart C4780 color printer/scanner/copier w/ wireless capability, memory slots, \$75. 256-518-9869

Rustic pine end tables, coffee table, pic available, \$75. 256-777-1810

Multi-Poo puppies; goats, one nanny, one kid, \$110 for both. 931-425-0830

Playstation 3 game, Little BIG Planet, Game of the Year

edition, rated E, \$25. 256-828-1234

Airzone trampoline, 14' diameter with enclosure, \$180; Rock Band, drums, two guitars, mic \$50. 256-683-4758

RCA 27" color television, older model, pics available, \$55. 256-655-6348

Emerald-cut .75 carat diamond ring, gold band, color F, clarity VVS1, \$3,500. 527-0110

Vehicles

2006 Lexus GS 300, loaded, iPod integration, 49k miles, \$26,000. 256-508-5503

1985 Ford F-150, 4WD, short wheelbase, hunter green, tan interior, \$2,950. 256-259-1523

Wanted

Bunk beds or twin beds. 880-9025

Free

3/4 gallon Seadoo XP-S 2 stroke engine oil. 256-651-5847

Marshall's goal is to raise \$675,000 by the campaign's end Dec. 10. Visit <http://cfc.msfc.nasa.gov> for more information or to donate to CFC.

Smith, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Retirees chipping in

Marshall Center retirees are welcome to contribute to CFC. Ken Dunn, CFC executive chairperson for the 2010 campaign and a Marshall facilities project manager, said interested retirees should email him at kenneth.h.dunn@nasa.gov to receive CFC donation forms. All completed forms must be returned no later than Dec. 10.



During a recent CFC bus tour, Marshall Center Deputy Director Gene Goldman, left, talks with Catherine Hereford, development director at the National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville. The center provides child abuse response and prevention services across the Tennessee Valley. "I was overwhelmed by the great work done here, the tremendous impact on the lives they touch," Goldman said. "Their dedication is awe-inspiring." For more information, or to contribute, visit <http://cfc.msfc.nasa.gov>.

Obituaries

Stuart Peck, 89, of Huntsville died Oct. 11. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1994 as a mission support engineer.

Garthell Upton, 84, of Decatur died Oct. 12. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1994 as an electronics technician.

Horton Webb, 81, of Huntsville died Oct. 12. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1981 as a facilities and equipment engineer. He is survived by his wife, Reba Webb.

Dallas Buron Baldwin, 85, of Montgomery died Oct. 13. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1971 as an aerospace engineer technician. His is survived by his wife, Katherine Lucille Baldwin.

Onis Green, 90, of Huntsville died Oct. 15. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1978 as an aerospace engineer. He is survived by his wife, Mary Elizabeth Swafford Green.

Marvin Edward Partin, 88 of Decherd, Tenn., died Oct. 19. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1978 as an aerospace engineer technician.

Walter Record, 90, of Huntsville died Oct. 19. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1984 as a procurement analyst.

James Curry, 84, of Madison died Oct. 22. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1981 as a materials engineer. He is survived by his wife, Imogene Guice Curry.

Charles Winn, 92, of Huntsville died Oct. 24. He retired from the Marshall Center in 1973 as an aerospace engineer technician supervisor.

Peggy Frazier, 61, of Huntsville died Nov. 6. She retired from the Marshall Center in 2005 as a flight structures engineer. She is survived by her husband, Terry Frazier.

Eloise J. Leslie Gardner, 54, of Huntsville died Nov. 11. She was a management support assistant in the Propulsion Structural, Thermal and Fluid Analysis Division of the Propulsion Systems Department in the Engineering Directorate. She is survived by her husband, Paul Gardner.

A salute to our military men and women



More than 80 Marshall Space Flight Center team members and retirees who serve or have served in the U.S. military were honored during a meet-and-greet event Nov. 10. Enjoying the celebration are Army veteran Don Frazier, left, chief scientist for physical chemistry in Marshall's Engineering Directorate, and Air Force veteran and Marshall retiree Roger Chassay. The event was hosted by Marshall's Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity.

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